

# BASE BALL, BOXING AND ALL LIVE SPORTS

## PLAYED ANY POSITION

### Charles Ferguson Named as Best All-Round Ball Player.

Made Reputation With Philadelphia Nationals During Late '80's as Pitcher—Covered Much Territory Around Second.

The wonderful all-round work on the diamond last season for the St. Louis Browns by a young collegian named George Sisler recalls the name of the great Charles Ferguson, who was named as the best all-round ball player the game ever had.

Ferguson made his reputation with the Philadelphia Nationals during the late '80's as hurler and general utility player, and he was cut off right in the height of his playing ability and glory in 1888.

Here is some history about the great Ferguson and a few records he made during his short but brilliant career: Ferguson was secured from the Virginia club of Richmond, Va., in 1883, and began his work for the Philadelphia Nationals in the spring of 1884. That team was more or less of a joke, but the magnificent work of Ferguson was a big factor in making it a contender for pennant honors in 1886 and 1887, and it was during those seasons Ferguson made national fame.

Here is his work for 1887: A percentage of .728 in games won, a fielding record of .947 in 25 games at second and a batting average of .414.

Ferguson could catch a splendid game, and before going to Philadelphia he was known to go behind the bat one day and pitch the day following.

In playing second he could cover a vast amount of territory, was equally sure on ground and fly balls and a strong, quick thrower.

## SAYS RACE WILL BE HUMMER

Miller Huggins Says Every Team in National League Has Fighting Chance to Win Out.

Miller Huggins, leader of the St. Louis Nationals, declares it will take a good guesser to pick the pennant winner in the circuit this year.

"Every team has a fighting chance," he says, "not even excepting the Cardinals."



Manager Miller Huggins.

dinals. I consider the National league is better balanced than in 1915."

Huggins refused to hazard an opinion as to his own choice.

"However," he continued, "the team that beats out Boston will run one, two."

The St. Louis leader believes New York has a chance if McGraw's pitchers hold up, describes Brooklyn's aggregation as well balanced, and regards Cincinnati as shifty.

Huggins admits the power Alexander lends to the Philadelphia team, but maintains his own athletes will make every opponent realize they are in a real fight for the pennant.

## OLD VETS IN NORTHWESTERN

President Blewett Names Bill Finerman, Harry Howell and Garnet Bush as His Umpires.

President Blewett of the Northwestern league announces his umpire staff for 1916 as follows: Bill Finerman, once in the National league and last year a Fed; Harry Howell, former American league pitcher and since then an umpire in a variety of leagues, and Garnet Bush, an umpire at one time or another in most every league. No provision is made for a relief umpire, as the Northwestern proxy believes this trio, with the experience it has had, should be hard-nosed to all sorts of mishaps.

## BILL SULLIVAN TAUGHT HIM

Veteran Catcher Had Bill Meyers of Athletics Under His Wing While With White Sox.

Catcher Bill Meyers of the Athletics is only twenty-three years old, but has a good deal of baseball experience. Almost everybody has been marveling at the knowledge Meyers has of the fine points of catching and could not understand where he had picked them up, until Meyers informed Mack that he had been under the wing of Bill Sullivan, the veteran catcher, while with the White Sox, four years ago.

## INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE IS "COMING BACK"



Three Major League Veterans Now With Minor Organizations.

(By ED G. BARROW, President of the International Baseball League.)

The International league is "coming back" this season. Its prospects have not been so bright for a long, long time. The war is over, confidence is restored and the baseball conditions are normal again. Of course, the war caused us some suffering but it won't be long before our organization will be back on the same high plane as before the advent of the "outlaws."

The 1916 make-up of the league will be the same as in the old days—a compact circle made up of the best cities in the East. And so we all are more than hopeful that brighter days have come.

The return to Newark and Baltimore is gratifying. I am confident that before the season is over the fans in both cities will be completely satisfied with the brand of baseball they will get.

James Price and Fred Tenney, the new owners of the Newark club, have made themselves popular by announcing that they will have no major league connections. Another popular move was the decision to play the games in Newark instead of in Harrison. Jack Dunn always gave Baltimore baseball of major league caliber, and with no opposition there this season he is bound to win the fans back to the support of his Orioles.

Richmond no doubt will make a much better showing in the way of attendance this season. "Billy" Smith is a shrewd and capable manager, and his hustling qualities will make him popular with the fans. I

look for the Virginians to have a very successful season all around.

The change to local ownership has stirred things up in Providence, and the fans no doubt will rally to the support of "Billy" Draper, the new owner of the club, who is very popular throughout Rhode Island.

President Chapin of Rochester made a ten-strike when he secured Little Tommy Leach to manage the Hustlers. Tommy has always shown that he possesses managerial ability by the way he has gone about building up a team for his new boss. The "midget" undoubtedly will be just as big a favorite in the International league as he was in the big show.

Pat Donovan and his champions should have a banner season in Buffalo, now that they have the field all to themselves there.

The large number of Canadians that have gone to the war front has made baseball conditions in Toronto and Montreal a little uncertain. However, the people of Canada are great lovers of outdoor sports, and they no doubt will patronize the ball games liberally. Baseball is about the only form of outdoor amusement left in Canada that has not been seriously affected by the European war. Joe Birmingham at Toronto and Dan Howley at Montreal, are both clever and experienced managers, and are backed by real sportsmen, who have shown their liberality and gameness on many occasions in the past.

All things considered, the outlook for the International league is very encouraging.

## BASE BALL STORIES

The White Sox will not wear dark blue road uniforms this year.

Ray Chapman declares the Indians have one of the best infields in the game.

Leo Grim of Brooklyn, N. Y., is to be president of the new Lancaster club of the Atlantic league.

Otto Jordan, member of Campan's Bing 1902 team, has retired from baseball and is selling automobiles.

Pitcher Harry Harper of the Senators, has shown wonderful improvement since rounding into form.

It is Manager Fohl's intention to carry only two utility infielders and but one extra outfielder this season.

Mike O'Neill, the hustling manager of the Syracuse team of the New York State league, now has seven pitchers on his staff.

Billy Hamilton seems to have the Worcester fans with him. He says he plans to cut out the groucho stuff, once his specialty.

Johnny Lavan, who played shortstop for the Browns for several years, is apt to beat out Ernie Johnson, who went to the Browns from the Feds.

"Honus" Wagner during his entire career has never been a holdout. When a guy becomes so proficient that he writes his own contracts it's not necessary to hold out.

Roger Bresnahan thinks he cannot operate a team successfully with only 16 players and he has started a move to have the American association team limit increased to 17.

Most ball players in the big leagues are superstitious. Jack Fournier feels he is losing a base hit when he passes a cripple without giving him something. The big Frenchman loves his base hits, which is a good thing for the cripples.

## HANK GOWDY IS ONE OF "13"

Boston Backstop Got His Start in Major League With Giants—Lasted Less Than a Year.

Hank Gowdy, the Boston backstop, got his major league start with the New York Giants on September 13, 1910, when he covered first base in a game in which the Pirates opposed the McGraw clan. Gowdy's record in the field was ten putouts, one assist and one error. At the bat he didn't get a hit in three times up, the de-



Hank Gowdy.

livery of "Babe" Adams being too baffling for the future star of the Beaneaters.

Gowdy was bought by the Giants from the Dallas club of the Texas league, and had previously played with Lancaster, in the Ohio State league. Hank stuck with the Giants less than a year, and in July, 1911, McGraw swapped him to the Braves for Charley Herzog. His work at the initial bag didn't make much of an impression on Stallings, and he shipped him off to Buffalo, where he was put behind the bat, and soon became the star backstop of the international circuit. Hank was recalled to the Boston club at the close of the international season.

## 'THIEVER' FINALLY OUT

Three Assists Required to Retire Man Stealing Base.

Throw From Catcher Hits Pitcher on Head, Shortstop Catches It and Nips Runner at Third—How Scorer Figured It Out.

Claude Berry, former catcher for the Pittsburgh Feds, tells this one: "One day while I was catching for the Dallas (Tex.) team a runner on first started to steal second. I pegged toward the base but our pitcher—Walker—had moved out of the box after he delivered the ball, and walked into the throw.

"The ball hit Walker on top of the head, and as Walker dropped to the ground the ball bounded high in the air. The runner had reached second by that time, and not seeing the ball in play raced for third. But our shortstop saw the ball, caught it as it came down and whipped it to third in time to put out the runner.

"The official scorer credited three men with an assist. He gave me an assist because I had made the original throw, he gave one to the pitcher, because his head had deflected the ball to the shortstop, and, of course, he gave one to the shortstop for making the throw to third."

Berry, by the way, is believed to be the only catcher who jumped into a grandstand after a foul ball and caught it. He performed the trick when he was in San Francisco in 1908.

Berry's other claim to fame is that during the season of 1908-1909 in California—covering a straight stretch of 12 months—he caught 34 games, while with the San Francisco team. That means he worked nearly every day for a year.

## WILL HELP GIANT OUTFIELD

Rough Starts at Crack of Bat and Judgment of Fly Balls is Uncanny—Also Hard Hitter.

Eddie Roush, who came from the Federal league with Bonnie Kauff, is bound to prove a big help to the Giant outfield.

He is a hard hitter and a remarkable fielder. He starts at the crack of



Eddie Roush.

the bat and his judgment of fly balls is uncanny.

He was a holdout for a while, but he finally came to terms with the New York club.

## WILLIE KEELER AS MANAGER

Former New York Yankee Star to Have Charge of Allentown Club in Pennsylvania League.

Willie Keeler is to don the spangles once more. Wee Willie, one-time wonder with the bat and in the outfield, has been signed to manage the Allentown club of the Pennsylvania State league. Keeler has not been active in baseball since he left the New York Yankees. He was coach with the Superbas for a while and did some scouting work, but in the main he attended pretty strictly to real estate business in Brooklyn. Keeler was approached with what looked like a good proposition in Allentown, where it is understood he will have a financial interest in the club. Willie's advent as a manager will be watched with great interest.

## MONEY TIED UP IN BASEBALL

Interesting Comparison Is Made by Secretary Langtry of American Bowling Congress.

It is said that \$34,000,000 is tied up in baseball in this country. Secretary Langtry of the American Bowling Congress offers an interesting comparison between the money invested in the national sport and in bowling.

He says there are more than 200,000 bowling alleys in the United States, and each one represents an average cost of \$500, barring pins, balls and rent, in the event the manager does not own his own building.

This would make a total of \$100,000,000 in alleys alone, with \$1,000,000 for pins, considering that each alley had only one set of pins. Most of them have five or more and the nominal cost of a set is \$5.

## PITCHER ALEXANDER GOES UP IN AEROPLANE



Manager Pat Moran Watching His Star Pitcher Make an Ascent.

Grover Cleveland Alexander, the Phillies' star pitcher and the premier boxman of the National league, made his first ascension in an aeroplane with Johnny Green, the aviator, who made the trip across the Lookout Mountains in Tennessee.

Manager Moran was very reluctant about letting Alexander make the trip, he does not want his \$40,000 star to get the habit of making these aerial ascensions nor does he want to run the risk of Alexander getting hurt.

Alexander has been priming himself for the season's opening and is in fine shape. He is confident that he will duplicate his wonderful performance of last year.

The photo shows Manager Moran (left), Aviator Green (center), Alexander in his outfit on the aviator's right.

## WHY SCHAEFER WAS SIGNED

Manager Donovan and Dutch Comedian Were Best of Friends While Playing With Tigers.

When they were together on the Tigers many years ago Germany Schaefer and Bill Donovan were the best of friends. This may have been one reason why the Yankees signed up the comedian. At any rate, the following comedy from New York listens reasonable:

"Well, Bill," said Germany, according to the story, "I see we have nailed Lee Magee?"

Manager Donovan smiled and nodded.

"Looks as if we ought to have a great season—eh, Bill?"

Donovan grinned.

"Nothing like the old Tigers standing together—eh, Bill?"

A few days later Schaefer won the right to say "we" when he attached his name to the papers.

## TYLER HAS UNIQUE DELIVERY

Big Southpaw Flinger of Boston Braves is Most Effective Hurler in National League.

George Tyler, the southpaw member of the pitching trio that made the Braves the sensation of the National league, is considered the most effective lefthander in the National.

He owes his effectiveness mostly to his overhand motion and to his cross-fire. Overhand pitching southpaws are rare. Waddell was one and there have been few others. But overhand



George Tyler.

cross-fire twirlers have not existed until Tyler showed himself one. Usually the cross-fire is a side-arm ball. Tyler throws it by taking a long step toward first base.

The ball does not leave his hand until he is nearly a yard away from the batter's line and comes sailing in on a right-hand hitter and away from the lefthander. Tyler has a wonderful curve and a fine change of pace.

His slow ball is held loosely in his hand, exactly like his fast one, but no pressure is exerted except by his thumb and little finger. The ball is "covered" and it is impossible to tell what he will throw.

## OUR LEADING CLUBS

Moulders of Public Opinion and Assembling Places for Citizens in This City.

The Eagle Presents Its Gallery of the Leading Political and Social Organizations.

Following are the locations of the leading self-sustaining clubs of Chicago:

Apollo Club, 202 S. Michigan ave. Builders', 412-418 Chamber of Commerce building.

Calumet, Michigan ave. and 20th st. Caxton, Tenth floor, Fine Arts bldg. Chicago Athletic Association, 12 S. Michigan ave.

Chicago Architectural, Art Institute.

Chicago Automobile, 321 Plymouth court.

Chicago Club, Michigan ave. and Van Buren street.

Chicago Cycling, 1615, 37 East Van Buren street.

Chicago Motor Club, 1250 South Michigan avenue.

Chicago Yacht, foot of Monroe st. City Club, 315 Plymouth court.

CHS Dwellers, 216 S. Michigan ave. Colonial Club of Chicago, 4445 Grand boulevard.

Columbia Yacht, foot of Randolph street.

Elks, Grand Pacific Hotel (temporary), pending completion of new club house at 174 West Washington street.

Englewood, 6323 Harvard avenue. Edgewater Country, 6688 Winthrop avenue.

Farragut Yacht Club, foot of 39d st. Germania Maennerchor, 106 Germania place.

Hamilton, 20 S. Dearborn st. Illinois Athletic, 113 S. Michigan avenue.

Irish Fellowship Club, La Salle Hotel.

Iroquois, 21 N. La Salle st. Illinois, 113 S. Ashland boulevard.

Jefferson, Dearborn ave. and Maple street.

Kenwood, Lake ave. and 47th st. Kenwood Country, Drexel boulevard and 48th street.

Mid-Day, First National Bank bldg., 17th floor.

Oaks, Lake st. and Waller ave. Press Club of Chicago, City Hall Square Building.

Quadrangle, Lexington avenue and 58th street.

Rotary, 38 South Dearborn st. Saddle and Cycle, Sheridan Road and Foster avenue.

South Shore Country, lake shore and 57th street.

Southern, 26 N. Dearborn street. Speedway Park Club, 140 S. Dearborn street.

Standard, Michigan ave. and 24th street.

Swedish Club of Chicago, 1258 La Salle avenue.

Twentieth Century, 3246 Michigan avenue.

Union League, Jackson boulevard and Federal street.

University, Michigan avenue and Monroe street.

John C. Richberg, the veteran and able lawyer, is always fighting for the advancement of his native city—Chicago.

Charles S. Thornton, the well known lawyer, has honored every office he ever filled from president of the board of education to corporation counsel.

Nicholas R. Finn, the well known lawyer, made one of the best records as alderman ever made by any member of the city council.

William Cullen Burns is making a great success at the Bar.

I. H. Stone, the popular Secretary of the Janette Manufacturing Company, of 617 W. Jackson Boulevard, reports a great demand for the Automatic Electric beer pumps manufactured by that reliable concern.

Trustee Edward Kane of the Sanitary District is one of the hardest working officials in the state. He is always alive to the public's interest.

Harry W. Cooper has built up a reputation for fair dealing that boosts the sale of the Batavia tires outside of their own good qualities.

Judge Charles A. Williams is making the excellent record on the Municipal Court bench that all his friends predicted he would make.

Judge Charles A. Williams has pleased his friends by his fine record on the Municipal bench.

John B. Knight of 72 West Washington street is one of the leaders in the real estate world.

R. McDonald of Clinton and Adams streets is popular with printers, manufacturers and everybody else.

A. J. Banta, the wide-awake general manager of the Locomobile Company, 2000 Michigan avenue, is popular with everybody in and out of the auto world.

The Micholob Club which meets at Ohio and Clark streets in Sauerman's splendid rooms is growing in membership and power every day.